

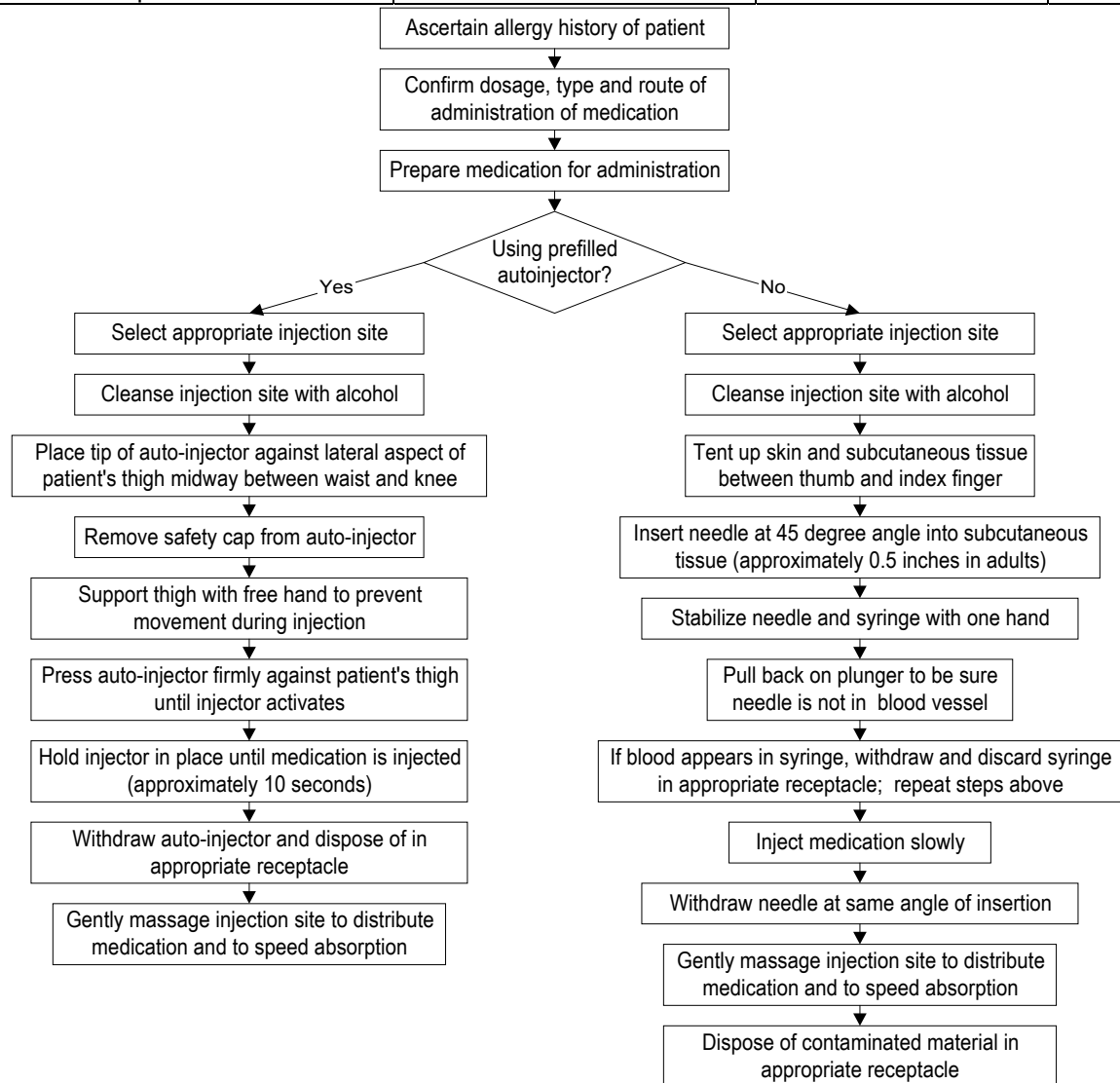
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**MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS
PRACTICAL SKILL
SUBCUTANEOUS**

Approved by: Ronald Pirrallo, MD, MHSA
Signature:
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ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

Purpose: To deliver medication to the subcutaneous tissue for absorption by blood vessels		Indications: Anaphylaxis Severe respiratory distress due to bronchospasm	
Advantages: Delivers medication slowly for distribution throughout the body Effects sustained over a period of time Does not require IV access	Disadvantages: Pain Only 0.5 ml of medication may be administered subQ Cannot give tissue-irritating medication subQ	Complications: Infection Accidental IV injection if needle tip is in vein	Contraindications: Infection at injection site



NOTES:

- Medication approved for subcutaneous administration: epinephrine 1:1000.
- Hypotension is usually a contraindication for subcutaneous injections due to the lack of peripheral circulation to pick up medication. Subcutaneous injection of epinephrine 1:1000 for anaphylaxis is an exception.